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Hello Harold,

Thanks for your long letter. Yes, I certainly understand what you mean and how you feel. I must be honest, though, in saying that we will have to agree to disagree on some points. I also think I may have not written very plainly. You see, it is ME whom I regard as ignorant--not you. I was telling you that I ADMIT I do not know what is sometimes going on. That's rather hard on the go--but, I am honest, if sometimes gullible.

My comments on the two POST reporters is an evaluation from one of their co-workers, a friend of some 15 years standing. He's a man who has no axe to grind, no professional jealousy. His standards of ethics are also higher than most, I might add. Since I have no personal knowledge of either man I was in error to have written that without attributing it properly.

It seems that I spend more time apologizing to people whose opinions matter to me than I do properly asking questions. I guess I will never have your dedication to one topic, for I am now ready to chuck the whole thing in and devote my journalistic time to the military, to ordnance, crime, and these other less esoteric areas I know better. My attempt to open the lid of assassination has been less than confusing, it has been a sewer of contradiction.

Your letter came yesterday. At the end of last week I got a sudden notice of a full tax audit with the first appointment set for a week from this Wednesday. I don't fear this, as my accounts are all in order and always have been. I do question, Why THIS year, which is not different from last. They want my 1973 records as they pertain to my writing and related expenses. Of course, I will go into this with an open mind.

Harold, I DO live in the real world. I think we have two different concepts of it. The problem is that I don't know your real world, I guess. You see, some of my past experiences have been with people who did things and said things which make FA type situations possible. Now, when I have two men with at least fair reputations telling me FA is an honest book with inside stuff, and you telling me it is a put-up job, I am naturally suspicious. I have another man telling me it is a product of the KGB. This man is a foreigh national I have known longer than you or any of the others involved in assassination work. Please don't confuse my questions with what I personally believe or do not believe. There is an analogy between a MAP and a TERRITORY. One is real, the other is not, regardless of how close it (the map) may appear to be the territory. Only the territory is ever real. Now, I have been shown a great many maps by a great many people. On the FA thing, I have four maps--and they don't agree too damn much. So, on that basis, I would have to either junk the story or keep digging. If that doesn't make sense to either of us, then, I guess there is a communication problem.

There is one other factor, is all the static worth it? This has to be a personal decision each of us makes. You have made your value judgement, which I respect, truly. I feel what you are doing is right. I am making my own decisions based on a great deal of input. I am beginning to wonder "what the hell difference DOES IT MAKE????" Will anything ~~ix~~ change? Can private people ever "solve" this? Is it worth the trouble to even get involved? Again, I fear my answer will differ from yours.

No, I was NOT really asking you to do my homework. I was asking you your opinion, your advice. In a sense I was using you as a sounding board and as a source. I thought my homework would involve answering some basics I don't have access to. I was simply asking you--whom I consider to be the top source I know of--for your opinion. I did not mean to imply you were doing my research.

Ahhh, forget it. I know what you mean. Sure, I do understand your impatience. I also understand the problems you are facing with funds, bother, and having <u>someone</u> upset your life.

I will take your advice and be more independent.

Thanks much for what you have done for me. I also fully expect to do some writing on your books and your efforts. It might make a nice bow out for me. So, I will be looking forward to seeing your next book. I'll send you a copy of anything I write on or about you, as I said I would.

You are correct about postage, so I enclose a SASE. And, do not misinterpret that gesture as my being patronizing. If I felt that way I would not have even written this. I guess we might enjoy talking someday. It may be wrong for an almost 37 year old to criticize a 61 year old...but, I think I have some valid ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ arguments.

Ahhhh, have a nice day, and enjoy the fine fall weather...When in doubt, I always find a friend in the woods outside. Nature is usually pretty nice.

Just to show you I care about more than murder...I ~~xxxx~~ enclose the enclosed.

Cordially,

JDT